

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1877.]

[**CONFIDENTIAL.**]

SELECTIONS  
FROM THE  
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS  
PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,  
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,  
ODH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 24th November, 1877.

(POLITICAL.)

GENERAL.

The *Safir-i-Hindustán* of the 17th November says that the appointment of Nawab Mumtaz-ud-daula Sir Muhammad Faiz Ali Khan, Bahadur, K.C.S.I., and the Raja of Sirmor, to the office of Member of the Legislative Council, is a mark of great honour to the natives. None but able and English educated natives should be elected Members of the Legislative Council, and the number of native members should be at least equal to the European members.

Circulation,  
220 copies.

The appointment of Natives to the Office of Member of the Legislative Council.

The *Mashir-i-Qaisar* of the 18th November, in an article headed "Rajputana," on the authority of its correspondent, complains of the luxurious habits of a Political Agent in a Native State.\* He does not come out of his *koti* for months. His wife wears gold and jewel ornaments worth a lac of rupees, and sits behind the screen just like a Begam.

Circulation,  
300 copies.

The habitual negligence of a Political Agent.

\* NOTE.—The name of the State is not mentioned in the paper. But from the heading of the article it appears to be some Rajputana State.



Whenever he wants money, he sends for it from the Maharaja. The Maharaja himself is a votary of luxury, and addicted to the use of opium, and naturally neglects the administration of his State. If any petitioners go to the house of the Agent they are turned out with disrespect.

## T U R K E Y.

Circulation,  
160 copies.

The *Khair-Khwáh Alam* of the 20th November, referring to the late reverses of the Turks in the war, appeals to the religious patriotism of the Musalmans of India to render pecuniary aid to their co-religionists of Turkey. By assisting the Turks they would be virtually upholding the cause of Islam, which is at present seriously endangered. Looking at the vast Muhammadan population of India, the collections hitherto made in India, on behalf of the Turks, may be justly condemned as too low.

The same paper defends the Government of India from the charge brought against it by the *Akhtar-i-Rúm*, a Constantinople Journal, in regard to the treatment of the Turkish Envoy (*vide* the *Selections* for the week ending the 17th November, 1877, page 797, *et seq.*). When on his way to Kabul, Sayyid Ahmad Khalousi Effandi himself was in haste, and would not lose time in receiving visits from the Indian nobility and gentry. But when he returned from Kabul, after discharging his mission, he stayed at several cities, and the inhabitants of those cities were at perfect liberty to see him. From his own personal experience, the writer is in a position to assert that many gentlemen of Delhi had an interview with the Envoy.

The Government of India  
and the Turkish Envoy.

## A F G H A N I S T A N.

Circulation,  
450 copies.

THE *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 17th November, referring to the hostile attitude of the Amir of Kabul towards the Government of India, says that the affairs of the North-West frontier at present engage

The Afghan politics.



the serious attention not only of the Government but also of every thoughtful native. Whether the storm will burst or quietly pass away is yet a matter of uncertainty. However, the more we think about it the more we become the prey of anxious and painful thoughts. The British rule in India is at present in a consolidated and firm state. There is not the slightest apprehension that the Amir of Kabul will ever have the temerity to invade India. But, on the contrary, it is likely that India will send a strong army against Kabul, as it did in the time of Akbar. We are not yet in a position to say for certainty that a Kabul campaign has been determined upon. But, if a campaign is to be undertaken, what propitious time have the wise fates fixed for it? The boundary of Khelat is the Danube between the Amir and ourselves, and military preparations are being pushed on both sides of it. The question is who will be the aggressor and cross it. Whether our patient and forbearing Government, or the hasty and aggrieved Amir backed by a strong power? Very probably the latter will be the aggressor. It is an admitted fact that Russian civilisation is not genuine. It has only a veneering of European civilisation. Intrigue is the secret of Russian aggrandisement, and, therefore, we can repose no faith in the words and deeds of Russia. It is not our concern to enquire whether the Amir will profit by a Russian alliance or not. The question that claims our most serious attention is what will be the consequences of our neglecting to make Afghanistan the shield of India. We ought not to consider the gardens of Kashmir a sufficiently strong fortification, and Khelat the starting point of fresh conquests. The alienation of Kabul from us will leave the passes on our North-West frontier wholly exposed. We learn from the past History of India that during the reigns of the powerful kings of Delhi, Kabul formed an integral portion of the Indian empire, and that whenever the Indian empire showed the least signs of weakness and lost its control over Kabul, a suc-



successful invasion from the West against India was carried out. Our Government is unquestionably one of the wealthiest and strongest powers in the world, and can successfully encounter the best organised assaults. But this is no good ground for wilfully neglecting any precautionary measure to ensure security. We look upon Afghanistan as the gate of India. In these circumstances can we afford to see a strong rival seize Afghanistan or establish his influence there? Nothing can be more desirable than that we should be able to disarm the hostility of the Afghans by amicable means. But if our past errors in the Afghan politics render a reconciliation impossible, we must try and annex Afghanistan to our dominions ere the Amir is enabled to get any aid from his powerful neighbour in the North. It is our firm belief that Russia is busy intriguing with Kabul, and evidently the only object which she has in view in doing this is to threaten India when a favourable opportunity occurs. If she has once established her influence at Kabul, it will be no easy task for us to drive her out. We have been neglecting the frontier affairs for some time past, and the result of this negligence is that they are at present the cause of some anxiety to us. But if we persist a little more in our carelessness, we will find ourselves involved in difficulties from which there will be no easy escape.

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Circulation,  
300 copies.

The *Mashir-i-Qaisar* of the 18th November draws attention

The condition of native prisoners belonging to the respectable classes should be ameliorated. to the pitiable condition of native prisoners belonging to respectable classes. Great indulgence is shown to

European prisoners in the jail both in the matter of labour and food. But all native convicts are indiscriminately subjected to the same harsh treatment. Does the Government regard natives as beasts of burden that it makes even respectable natives grind fifteen *sirs* of grain every day? It is to be deeply regretted that this is the policy of the English Government,



which plumes itself as being one of the most civilised Governments in the world. Sir George Couper, like Sir William Muir, should pay frequent visits to jails. True, the jail is a house of correction and not of pleasure. However, if it has been thought fit to grant indulgence to European convicts, the same favour should be extended to respectable natives also. Some tahsildars of Gorakhpur have lately been sentenced to imprisonment. The hard labour which they have to perform in the jail excites our pity.

The *Safir-i-Hindustán* of the 17th November, referring to the recent resolution of the Government of India asking local Governments and Administrations to see that the orders prohibiting the publication of advertisements of lotteries and race-sweeps are duly observed, remarks that the orders of the Government will never be properly enforced until the holding of lotteries and race-sweeps is put down as a cognizable offence and a special punishment is provided for it.

Circulation,  
220 copies.

The *Urdu Akhbár* (published in Marathi at Akola) of the 17th November approves of the action taken by the Government of India to check lotteries and race-sweeps.

Circulation,  
130 copies.

The *Rafáh Am* of the 16th November suggests that each district officer should hold a public darbar once a week. No subordinate officer should be permitted to attend the proposed weekly darbar. Every man, rich or poor, should have free access to the district officer that day. These weekly darbars will enable the district officer to obtain a true insight into the condition of the people and deter the subordinate officers from oppressing the people.

Circulation,  
600 copies.

The *Ashraf-ul-Akhbár* of the 21st November says that looking at the military strength of the European powers and the military preparations vigorously pushed on in India.

Circulation,  
105 copies.



Afghanistan, the numerical strength of the Indian Army is notoriously weak. If in the present state of the Indian finances it is not advisable to increase the 'Army charges,' the Government should increase the efficiency of the Army of Native Chiefs by placing it under the discipline of European officers.

Circulation,  
230 copies.

The *Oudh Punch* of the 20th November publishes a few Urdu verses complaining of the trouble and inconvenience experienced by tahsildars and their subordinates in providing victuals, fodder, &c., for the district officers while on tour. The servants of the officers ask tahsildars for large quantities of milk, butter, grass, &c., under pain of punishment. The tours of district officers are a real calamity to the people.

The same paper publishes an Urdu *ghazal* of which the substance is as follows:—Fair complexion is held in great honour, and no value attaches to ability. Cursed be the dark complexion of natives which has excluded them from the covenanted civil service. The native officers have to do all the work, and the Europeans get the credit for it. If courts of justice yield to national partiality, they cannot be expected to administer impartial justice. The English power has deserted its old friend, the Sultan of Turkey, in the hour of need. The coat and the pantaloons are the dress of a civilised nation, while the native dress is only suited to a barbarous nation.

Europeans and Natives.

#### POST OFFICE.

Circulation,  
325 copies.

A correspondent of the *Panjáb-i-Akhabár* of the 17th November says that the Sub-deputy Postmasters in the Panjab get one rupee a month for stationery and contingent charges including eight annas for house-rent. Thus, strictly speaking, they get only eight annas for stationery and contingent expenses. But this small allowance cannot obviously cover the whole monthly charges.

The contingent allowance given to Sub-deputy Postmasters in the Panjab is insufficient.



The Sub-deputy Postmasters have, therefore, to pay eight or ten annas a month out of their own pockets, which they can ill afford, because their pay is only Rs. 10 a month.

#### RAILWAY.

The *Shola Tár* of the 23rd October (received on the 24th November), referring to the Oudh and Rohilkhand State Railway, says that the names of stations and the value of the ticket are given on each ticket only in English, and not in Urdu and Hindi also, and, therefore, the majority of passengers who are unacquainted with English are put to great inconvenience to ascertain whether they have got the right tickets.

Circulation,  
310 copies.

#### LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

A correspondent of the *Núr-ul-Anwár* of the 17th November says that the late Scholarship exam-

Circulation,  
380 copies.

The mismanagement of the late Scholarship Examination held in Muzaffarpur, Behar.

ination was held on the 29th October, at the City School, in Muzaffarpur, in Behar. The officer in charge of the

examination room dropped a hint to the examinees to use unfair means. Accordingly they consulted their books in answering the questions. On hearing this the inhabitants of the city sent their domestic servants also to join the examination. The officer told the servants that they were too late, but they tickled his palm and were admitted.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 20th November notices two

Circulation,  
440 copies.

The prevalence of theft in Hoshyarpur.

recent cases of theft in the Hoshyarpur district, one occurred in Hariana, and the other in Mahalpur. In the first case, when the robbers were inside the house and were threatening the inmates to yield up their property, a constable and a jamadar reached the house. The constable drew his sword and wished to enter the house, but the jamadar dissuaded him from doing so. In the other case the two constables who were on duty



were present at a gambling house collecting their dues while the robbery was being committed in the village.

Circulation,  
450 copies.

[The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 17th November says that the charges brought against the Native Press by Government, or rather by some of its officers, are entirely unfounded. Relying upon truth, we are in a position to assert that the Native Press is very loyal. True, fear and flattery are the characteristics of weak persons, but of those weak persons only who do not know what are the mutual relations of men. The ex-king of Oudh used to squander the public money as he pleased and no one could oppose his will. But the times have now changed. Now the Government is bound to act with strict justice, and it is incumbent upon the people to be loyal to the Government. If either of the parties will deviate from its duty, it will be sooner or later rebuked for it. The existing law provides ample punishment for a seditious writer. If any newspaper publishes a seditious article, the writer may be punished like a rebel. No European officer is justified in attacking the Native Press. If any man writes a seditious article he should be brought to justice, but it is not right on the part of Europeans to condemn the whole Native Press as disloyal in its tone. An attempt on their part to gag the Native Press on such grounds is an unjustifiable proceeding. It would be just as reasonable on our part to memorialise our Empress to withdraw all English officers from India, on the ground that there are some Europeans, like Mr. Fuller and the cantonment magistrate of Amritsar, as it is on the part of Europeans to advise Government to establish a censorship of the Native Press, because some papers occasionally transgress the limit of moderation. The Native Press sometimes criticises the acts of European officers, and apparently the cause of the enmity of Europeans towards the Native Press lies in this. But, properly speaking, this is no fault. We agree with the *Indian Tribune*



in thinking that a newspaper is of no use if it does not criticise. Those Europeans who think themselves capable of holding high offices should always bear in mind the salutary advice of the Marquis of Hastings, the late Governor-General of India, that to attend to popular criticism is of great use to a high official. We congratulate the natives and our just Government on the fact that the Native Press has of late made considerable progress. Some native newspapers now properly discharge their duties. However, we are sorry, there are still many newspapers which out of fear or flattery refrain from criticising the acts of Europeans and contending for the rights and privileges of natives. But time may be trusted for working out the desirable change in them. If we cannot win the good will of European officers, because we criticise their conduct, we cannot help it, nor is there any necessity for us to cajole them, relying on the justice and impartiality of our Government. It is not the Englishman but the interested Anglo-Indian who cries down the Native Press. If the hot climate of India does not suit some Anglo-Indians and affects their brains, we exhort the Government to send them back to the congenial climate of Europe, so that the Government and the natives may not be unnecessarily harassed by their false clamour against the Native Press. We sincerely love the English Government, and, therefore, we readily point out the mistakes committed by the Government and criticise the conduct of public servants.



## LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	DATE.	CIRCULATION.
1	Agra Akhbār ...	Agra ...	Urdū ...	Weekly ...	Novr. 14th, 1877.	327 copies (including 50 copies taken by Govt.)
2	Akhhār-i-'Alam ...	Meerut ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	17th "	80 copies.
3	Akhhār-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	24th "	945 copies (including 336 copies taken by Govt.)
4	Akhhār-i-Tamannāi ...	Lucknow ...	Ditto ...	Tri-monthly ...	20th "	125 copies.
5	Akmāl-ul-Akhhār ...	Delhi ...	Ditto ...	Weekly ...	18th "	120 "
6	Aligarh Institute Gazette ...	Aligarh ...	Urdū-English ...	Bi-weekly ...	17th & 20th "	343 copies (including 94 copies taken by Govt.)
7	Almorah Akhbār ...	Almorah ...	Hindī ...	Bi-monthly ...	15th "	77 copies.
8	Anjuman-i-Hind ...	Lucknow ...	Urdū ...	Weekly ...	17th "	130 "
9	Anjuman-i-Panjāb ...	Lahore ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	16th "	410 copies (including 250 copies taken by Govt.)
10	Anwar-ul-Akhhār ...	Lucknow ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	18th "	100 copies.
11	Ashraf-ul-Akhhār ...	Delhi ...	Ditto ...	Tri-monthly ...	21st "	105 "
12	Benares Akhbār ...	Benares ...	Hindī ...	Weekly ...	15th "	58 "
13	Dabdaba-i-Sikandari ...	Rāmpur ...	Urdū ...	Ditto ...	19th "	352 "
14	Gwalior Gazette ...	Gwalior ...	Hindī-Urdū ...	Ditto ...	18th "	"



15	Jaipur Akhbār (Rajputana),	...	Urdu	...	Weekly	...	Novr.	16th, 1877.	125 copies.
16	Jawah Tār	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	16th	142 "
17	Káramah	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	19th	300 "
18	Káshi-Patrika	...	Hindi-Urdú	...	Bi-monthly	...	"	20th	310 copies (including 200 copies taken by Govt.)
19	Kaukab-i-Hind	...	Urdu	...	Ditto	...	"	21st	260 copies.
20	Kavi Vackan Sudhá	...	Hindi-English	...	Weekly	...	"	19th	300 "
21	Kayasth Samachar	...	Urdu	...	Monthly	...	"	7th	300 "
22	Khair Khwah-i-Alam	...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	"	20th	160 "
23	Khair Khwah-i-Hind	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	16th	200 "
24	Koh-i-Núr	...	Ditto	...	Bi-weekly	...	"	17th & 21st	495 copies (including 30 copies taken by Govt.)
25	Lama-i-Núr	...	Ditto	...	Weekly	...	Octr. 21st & Novr. 18th, 1877.		57 copies.
26	Lauh-i-Mahfúz	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	Novr. 16th, 1877.		85 "
27	Lawrence Gazette	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	20th	500 copies (including 50 copies taken by Govt.)
28	Málwá Akhbár	...	Maráhti	...	Ditto	...	"	14th	100 copies.
29	Márwár Gazette	...	Hindi-Urdú	...	Ditto	...	"	12th	300 "
30	Mashir-i-Qaisar	...	Urdu	...	Ditto	...	"	18th	80 "
31	Meerut Gazette	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	19th	200 "
32	Mitrá Bilds	...	Hindi	...	Ditto	...	"	19th	125 "
33	Mufid-i-Hind	...	Urdu	...	Ditto	...	"	16th	50 "
34	Mutlai-i-Núr	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	20th	90 "
35	Naiar-i-Azam	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	21st	150 "
36	Najm-ul-Akhbár	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	16th	45 "
37	Nizam-ul-Akhbár	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	19th	407 "
38	Núr-i-Afshán	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	22nd	380 "
39	Núr-ul-Anwar	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	"	17th & 24th	



*List of papers examined—(continued).*

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	DATE.	CIRCULATION.
40	<i>Oudh Akhbār</i>	Lucknow	Urdū	Daily	Novr. 19th to 24th, 1877.	700 copies (in- cluding 50 copies taken by Govt.)
41	<i>Oudh Punch</i>	Ditto	Ditto	Weekly	20th	230 copies.
42	<i>Panjāb-i-Akhhār</i>	Lahore	Ditto	Ditto	17th	325 "
43	<i>Patiala Akhbār</i>	Patiala	Ditto	Ditto	19th	247 "
44	<i>Prince of Wales' Gazette</i>	Meerut	Hindī-Urdū-English,	Ditto	20th	150 "
45	<i>Qaisar-ul-Akhhār</i>	Allahabad	Urdū	Ditto	18th	100 "
46	<i>Rafāh-i-'Am</i>	Sialkot	Ditto	Bi-monthly	16th	600 "
47	<i>Rahbar-i-Hind</i>	Lahore	Ditto	Bi-weekly	17th & 20th,	450 "
48	<i>Riaz-ul-Akhhār</i>	Khairabad	Ditto	Tri-monthly	15th	230 "
49	<i>Rohilkhand Akhbār</i>	Moradabad	Ditto	Weekly	17th	210 copies (in- cluding 50 copies taken by Govt.)
50	<i>Safir-i-Budhāna</i>	Muzaffarnagar,	Ditto	Ditto	14th	500 copies.
51	<i>Safir-i-Hindustān</i>	Amritsar	Ditto	Ditto	17th	220 "
52	<i>Saiad-ul-Akhhār</i>	Delhi	Hindī-Urdū	Tri-monthly	20th	86 "
53	<i>Shafah-ul-Sudār</i>	Lahore	Arabic	Monthly	Agst. to Octr.	100 copies (in- cluding 20 copies taken by Govt.)
54	<i>Sir Punch Hind</i>	Lucknow	Urdū	Weekly	Novr. 17th	150 copies.
55	<i>Shola-i-Tūr</i>	Cawnpore	Ditto	Ditto	Octr. 2nd & 23rd, and Novr. 20th, 1877.	310 "



56	Tohfáh-i-Káshmir	...	Srinagar	...	Urdú	...	Weekly	...	Novr. 10th, 1877.	250 copies (in- cluding 200 copies taken by Maharaja of Káshmir).
57	Umdat-ul-Akhhár	...	Fatehgarh	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	14th	150 copies.
58	Urdú Akhhár ...	...	Delhi	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	16th	69
59	Urdú Akhhár	...	Akola	...	Marahiti	...	Ditto	...	17th	130
60	Urdú Akhhár (Akola)	...	Ditto	...	Urdú	...	Ditto	...	17th	190
61	Vakil-i-Hindustán	...	Amritsar	...	Ditto	...	Ditto	...	16th	212
62	Vrit Dhárá ...	...	Dhár	...	Marahiti	...	Ditto	...	19th	175

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